

A Regular Meeting of the Durham County Board of Health, held

April 12, 2001, with the following members present:

William H. Burch, Chairman, William Small, Ellen Reckhow,

Ruth Smullin, Dr. Sydney Rose, Dr. William C. Bordley, Dr. Michael

Royster, Robin Blanton, Lorraine Salois-Deane.

Excused Absence: Dr. Philip McHugh

Unexcused Absence: Sandra Peele

CALL TO ORDER. Mr. Burch, Chairman, called the Regular Meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Mr. Small made a motion to approve the minutes of March 8, 2001. The motion was seconded by Ms. Reckhow and approved unanimously.

LANGUAGE REVISION FOR \$7,500 BUDGET AMENDMENT APPROVED 3/8/01. Mr. Letourneau requested a language revision to the budget amendment, approved by the Board of Health on March 8, 2001 and the Board of County Commissioners on March 26, 2001, replacing Latino with *African-American*.

The Health Director said the language revision related to a \$7,500 budget amendment that was passed last month. The Health Department acts as fiscal intermediary for Durham Health Partners in their role as the Healthy Carolinians Consortium. The Consortium applied for two grants, each one was for \$7,500.

Mr. Letourneau said the language was almost identical in terms of the work to be performed. The difference was one grant applied for was directed toward the Latino population and the other was directed toward the African-American population. Durham Health Partners informed the Health Department that the Latino grant was approved and the Health Department acted upon that information. Later, it was determined that the African-American grant that was actually approved.

There was discussion by the Board.

Mr. Small made a motion to approve a language revision to the \$7,500 budget amendment approved on March 8th. Ms. Smullin seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition.

SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROMOTIONS. Tracey Bates, MPH, RD, LDN, presented the information used to celebrate National School Breakfast Week to the Board. An executive summary follows:

DURHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENTS BLAST OFF FOR BREAKFAST DURING NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST WEEK, MARCH 5-9, 2001

Students throughout Durham reached for the stars the week of **March 5-9** celebrating National School Breakfast Week. The Durham County Health Department (DCHD) and DPS-Child Nutrition Services have partnered again in this breakfast promotion utilizing this year's space theme, "**Launch Your Day with School Breakfast,**" to educate and

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enlighten students, parents, and community members about the importance of breakfast.

Nine reasons (one for each planet) to eat a nutritious school breakfast:

Enhances cognitive abilities

Strengthens brain function for completing complex tasks

Improves behavior

Decreases illness

Boosts energy levels

Improves academic performance

Reinforces life-long healthful eating habits

Introduces new foods

Contributes to overall physical fitness

DCHD nutritionists worked actively with target Durham Public Schools (Bethesda, Burton, CC Spaulding, Eastway, EK Powe, Fayetteville Street, Lakewood, Pearson, RN Harris, Watts, Chewning, Rogers-Herr, and Hillside) to celebrate National School Breakfast Week through classroom education, decorations, announcements, newsletter articles, activities, special events and contests. Students, teachers, parents, Durham County Commissioners, members of the Board of Education and Board of Health, Wool E. Bull (Durham Bulls mascot), breakfast-costumed characters and the local media were invited to special school breakfast celebrations. Breakfast costumed characters (costumes from Raleigh Creative Costumes, the NC Egg Association as well as the NC Apple, Blueberry and Strawberry Growers Associations) visited school breakfast and classrooms to remind students to eat a healthy breakfast every day.

Media coverage involved the following: Time Warner local cable channel - acceptance of NSBW proclamation at Durham County Commissioners Meeting and Durham County Government Show breakfast promotion interview, public service announcement on WDNC, interview and taped footage from Lakewood Elementary on WRAL TV 5 morning and noon broadcasts, article on Monday "Schools" page of The Herald-Sun, and breakfast ads in the National Nutrition Month Niche magazine "Food & Fitness: Build a Healthy Lifestyle" published by the Herald-Sun and the Durham-Chapel Hill Dietetic Association. In addition, The Herald-Sun Newspapers-in-Education (NIE) Program is publishing nutrition lessons, emphasizing breakfast, on Wednesdays during the month of March. NIE and the Nutrition Division worked together to develop the in-paper curricula series, co-sponsored by DCHD and the Southeast United Dairy Industry Association, Inc. (SUDIA).

Thirty percent of children do not eat breakfast every day putting them at risk for missing out on the 40+ nutrients needed for growth and development. School breakfast is a convenient, nutritious, economical daily service provided to families. If all students are given the opportunity to eat a nutritious morning meal, they will get the critical boost they need to succeed!

The Board discussed the importance of establishing media connections and using them to provide timely health related information to the public.

Mr. Letourneau said the Nutrition Division is large and very active. It is a model for many other counties who would like to emulate Durham County and do the things that it does.

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The Health Director said the clinical model and the educational model are working very well. The Nutrition Division's school program activities are increasing and are having a noticeable impact.

ASTHMA MANAGEMENT PROJECT UPDATE. The Chairman introduced Ms. Margaret "Peg" Wolfe, PHN I Supervisor, School Health Nurses.

Ms. Wolfe provided an update of the two-year Project funded through Glaxo Wellcome, Inc. and private donations and included history of the Asthma Management Project for the new Board of Health members.

History

- In 1995, development began in response to growing numbers of students identified with asthma.
- After informal surveys with students, reviewing the literature, and obtaining feedback from local providers, a protocol was developed.
- The protocol involved a one-hour class for school staff and a 6-session group (the A+ Asthma Club) for 4th and 5th graders with moderate to severe asthma.
- In addition, peak flow meters and spacers were provided to participating students through grants and donations.
- The Project was piloted in 1997-98 with students at four schools and then fully implemented in 1998-2000 at 24 experimental and control schools.

Current Status of Research Project

- Interventions are complete and measurements collected.
- Graduate students in nursing have analyzed the school staff data--results show a significant increase in staff comfort and knowledge.
- Student data is being checked for completeness.
- Meetings have been held with UNC nursing faculty and public health biostatistics graduate student to clarify research questions and set up framework for data entry.
- Negotiations are underway for the biostat graduate student to analyze student data to answer the research questions.

Current Implementation

- School nurses new to the program area have participated in two in-service trainings for leading student and school staff groups.
- Asthma Groups are being completed in 17 schools with approximately 100- 4th graders. After a series of 4 classes and coaching, the students will receive peak flow meters and spacers. In addition, teachers and other school staff were offered a one-hour educational presentation.

Timeline for Completion of Research

- Formatting and entering data from various measures
April-May 01
- Data analysis by School of Public Health - Biostatistics
May-June 01
- Write-up of results of student data
July-December 01
- Graduate nursing students to analyze benefits identified and suggestions made by parents of students

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Ms. Wolfe said the student data should be available to share with the Board sometime during the fall.

Dr. Bordley complimented the Project staff. He said that he believes it is an ambitious project. The idea of taking a "real-world" research project and attempting to identify its critical elements and measure its effectiveness can be very intense.

There was further discussion by the Board.

Mr. Letourneau said it is a great project. He said it provides a good opportunity for the School Nurses to help improve the lives of the children. It also contributes to the Health Department's objective to have healthy children and to the school's objective to keep the children in school and learning.

The Director said the Asthma Management Project has been a very valuable and positive experience.

HEALTH DIRECTOR REPORT. The Board viewed a video about the Teen Outreach Program (TOP) participants that were involved with an event at the Durham Rescue Mission and learned firsthand what it means to be homeless. The volunteer work was a part of the twenty hours community service required for the participants in the program.

Mr. Letourneau said that TOP activities directly benefit the community. He said there is a financial benefit to having teens involved in this kind of project. An hourly rate could be attached to the work that they do and could be measured as a tangible contribution to the community. He said this is an issue to be reviewed during the TOP evaluation.

The Health Director said the Department has great relationships with the media that has been cultivated over the last several years. The media has been extremely supportive.

Mr. Letourneau said the budget meeting is scheduled on April 26th. The Board should have a budget update at the May meeting.

The Board engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding the current status of Duke Health System's community health delivery activities.

It also discussed the modification of the Capital Improvement Plan which delays construction of the new Human Services Complex.

HEALTH EDUCATION DIVISION

Communicable Diseases

Carlotta Lee finished collecting the STD/HIV Peer Education Program needs assessment surveys at NCCU. She has been entering and analyzing the data in Epi Info. Carlotta also conducted an STD awareness program for at-risk females attending Northern High School.

Tim Moore and Carlotta Lee attended the Northeast Baptist Church Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS program, where Tim was a featured speaker.

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Caressa McLaughlin participated in a service at St. Titus Episcopal Church in observance of Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS. She also planned and conducted a STD awareness and prevention program for at-risk teen females living in group-homes and gave them a tour of the Health Department.

Carlotta Lee, Tim Moore, Constance Copeland and the Kaleidoscope peer educators staffed an STD/HIV information booth at the Northgate Mall Community Services Fair.

Caressa McLaughlin facilitated a discussion on HIV following the video "House on Fire" with clients at the Duke Alcohol and Addictions Program. She has also been organizing the planning for a community forum addressing HIV/AIDS in African American communities scheduled for April 19.

Caressa McLaughlin and Kat Turner conducted training on Lesbian and Gay, Bisexual Transgender Health Issues for the NC STD/HIV Prevention and Care Branch and the Durham Council for Senior Citizens. They also conducted bloodborne pathogens training for Health Department home health nursing staff.

Tim Moore presented HIV prevention strategies and proper sterilization procedures for IV drug users for staff at the Alliance of AIDS Services – Carolina (AASC). AASC has been added as a third bleach kit distribution site.

Constance Copeland has been collaborating with El Centro Hispano and other community partners to plan the Fiesta Block Party in celebration of National STD Awareness Week. The event will be held on April 28th from 12:00 noon until 2:00 p.m. in the West End Community. She also organized the last Kaleidoscope training during which Tim Moore instructed the peer educators in community outreach strategies that she arranged for the teens to participate in.

Kat Turner helped to plan the March 16th Annual Magnolia Forum for health care providers and people living with HIV. Constance Copeland also attended.

Caressa McLaughlin participated in a conference addressing HIV/AIDS, "Ending the Silence: The Faith Community Speaks Out" on March 1-2 in Greenville, NC.

Project StraighTalk staff attended the 5th Annual HIV Treatment Update with featured speaker Hydeia Broadbent, a teen living with AIDS. The staff and Kaleidoscope peer educators also attended the Teen HIV Forum featuring Hydeia Broadbent the following day.

Kat Turner attended the monthly N.C. Syphilis Elimination Project meeting hosted by Durham on March 21. She facilitated the monthly interdivisional team meeting on March 22, where they discussed syphilis cases, syphilis education, jail screening and the budget. Visitors from the Detroit Syphilis Elimination Project attended both meetings.

Corinne Alvino, LPN, Syphilis Elimination Project, offered syphilis education to all incoming jail inmates and tested 98 women and men; two of the tests were confirmed positive. All inmates, upon their release, receive a Project STAND prevention and referral kit with their property.

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Family Connections

The Family Connections Team conducted a total of 167 educational sessions for 2,959 participants in March.

Human Growth and Development classes, Family Life Education sessions and health fairs were conducted at Morehead, Montessori, Burton, Little River, Oak Grove, Neal, Northern High, Lakeview, the Middle School Learning Center, Durham School of the Arts, and Hillside High Schools.

Jennifer Woodward assisted with the administration of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey to students at Brogden Middle School and Jordan High School.

The Teen Outreach Program continues to offer classroom instruction and community service volunteering opportunities to program participants. Robin Tanas, TOP Health Educator, was featured March 8 on NBC leading a service-learning project at the Durham Rescue Mission. A service-learning project was also conducted with Tracey Bates, Nutritionist, at Hillside High school. A team of students had been working on the project in anticipation of the School Breakfast Week earlier this month. The students publicized the event with posters and drawings that they designed. It was a big success.

Chewning Middle School TOP participants had a successful service-learning trip. The students went to Oxford Manor HeadStart Program and Maureen Joy Charter School on March 9. They assisted the pre-school and elementary students with reading and math.

Hillside High School 7th period TOP class is working on a radio public service announcement and a television commercial for TOP. Some of the students are excited that they were selected to work on this assignment, and they are looking forward to completing the assignment before the end of the school year.

Students at Githens and Neal schools are looking forward to beginning the TOP Mural for their service-learning project. The Mural will consist of seventh grade Social Studies highlights with the Teen Outreach Project. Their intent is to provide a study wall for all students taking Social Studies classes.

Heather Scott and Ronda Sanders attended their first Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative meeting in Sanford, N.C. The meetings, which are held quarterly in different locations, provide opportunities to network with others who are involved in TOP, share program ideas, and develop a better understanding of the different ways TOP can be integrated into school and community programs. The meetings also provide information about expenditure reports, legislation, and upcoming training events. Staff found it interesting to learn about successes and challenges from the various agencies that implemented TOP at school and community sites. Agencies that receive funding from the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program are required to attend the quarterly meetings.

The Family Connections Team also participated in the Community Service Fair at Northgate Mall and a Public Health Seminar at UNC. The Public Health Seminar was not directly related to adolescent pregnancy issues, but it did address teens and disease in the United States from a national perspective.

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Seventeen new teenagers and five adults were recruited to participate in the fourth year T.E.A.S. cohort. The final number, however, will not be determined until all contracts are signed and received in April. One special project that the third and the fourth year cohorts will be involved in this year will be to plan and implement a teen summit for Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month.

Adolescent Health Day was held in Raleigh on March 13, 2001. Durham was well represented. Some legislators indicated that even with budget restraints, they are very supportive of adolescent health issues. They also stated that they would support increasing prevention education efforts, school nurses and work towards changing wording in the Abstinence until Marriage legislation.

Health Promotion & Wellness

Health Promotion provided 30 presentations reaching 738 participants during the month of March 2001.

Willa Robinson and Aimee Krans were requested to facilitate a Breath of Life smoking cessation series for NIEHS employees.

Willa Robinson and Captain M.C. Davidson conducted a survey to the Sheriff's Office employees. The intent of the survey was to assess smoking habits, secondhand smoke, readiness to quit smoking, and methods used for cessation. Many of the participants indicated an interest in smoking cessation classes. Health Promotion will offer a Breath of Life educational series in May or June 2001.

Willa Robinson taught a CPR class for county employees at the Human Resources Department. The Human Resources Department received positive feedback from the participants and has requested that other classes to be offered.

The County Wellness Team met to discuss possible programs that it can offer for county employees. Health Promotion and Wellness health educators will be facilitating at least two health programs for county employees in the upcoming quarter.

Joanie Hoggard participated in a panel discussion for the Stop NC Gun Violence, the first statewide citizen conference on gun violence. Ms. Hoggard discussed the Durham County gun safety initiative. Four of the panelists and presenters at the conference were members of Durham's Gun Safety Team.

Joanie Hoggard also presented an update on Domestic Violence at the quarterly staff meeting.

Aimee Krans and Willa Robinson are now nationally certified aerobics instructors.

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES CLINIC

BCCCP/Adult Health Screening Program

13 women were screened in the BCCCP Program

169 women were screened for domestic violence

282 persons were screened for hypertension

2 persons were screened for diabetes

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Communicable Diseases

Screening

322 persons screened in STD Clinic

373 persons screened for HIV: (206) persons tested at Durham County Health Department; (128) tested at Lincoln Community Health Center; (39) tested at Durham County Jail. There were no positive tests.

Reportable Diseases (Other than STDs)

4 Hepatitis B, Carrier

6 Rabies Bite Investigations

1 Tuberculosis Case

1 Campylobacter

1 Salmonellosis

3 Streptococcal Infection, Group A

Outbreaks

None

Immunizations

Immunizations given: 386

Pharmacy

Prescriptions filled: 2,830

Laboratory

Tests performed: 6,496

Activities of Staff

Kim M. Walsh, MD, MPH, joined the General Health Services staff as Medical Director, March 1, 2001.

The TB staff has been doing contact investigation for the two TB cases reported in February and March. The cases and many of the contacts speak Otomi, a Mexican native Indian language. Finding individuals capable of adequately interpreting for Otomi speakers has been a challenge. TB and Health Education staff is now working on a joint project to provide understandable TB education, TB community outreach, and TB screening for Otomi speakers in Durham County. Adding rubella prevention education and outreach is also being explored.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

The Environmental Health Division received a steady flow of requests from county residents for copies of their old turndown notices of lots upon receipt of Durham County property reevaluation notices. The process of researching a property history can take as much as 30-60 minutes per case depending on how sketchy or inexact the information provided by the client appears.

A non-certification, employee training ServSafe food safety course was held on March 6 & 7, 2001. The course was taught in Spanish to accommodate the Hispanic workforce in the foodservice industry. The Durham and Orange County Extension Services and Health Departments joined together to recruit and train restaurant owners to help conduct the classes. The class had 40 participants. A repeat course scheduled for May has registered 40 participants to date.

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Marc Meyer, Environmental Health Program Specialist with the Lead Prevention Program, used lead grant money to purchase a “Hep Vac” vacuum unit. This unit is loaned at no cost to assist residents in their cleanup efforts for lead reductions within the housing unit.

The Division/Department was successful in acquiring an exemption to the hiring freeze, allowing recruitment to begin toward filling a vacancy in the General Inspections Section. Initial contacts with interested parties include individuals already registered with North Carolina.

DENTAL DIVISION

The Dental Division has not been the same without Dr. Brooks. However, by all reports, he loves every minute of retirement.

Head Start children were brought to the Department for dental screening in March. In addition to oral exams, arrangements are currently being made for Head Start to bring children here for treatment.

The Dental Division is now making referrals for the parents of our patients to receive Nutrition counseling from the Nutrition Division.

Dental and Central Intake are working together to have all dental appointments made by Central Intake staff.

Dental Hygiene Activities

Education: Children - 1335 Adults - 153
Screenings: 231

Special Projects

Community Education Staff Development
Watts School of Nursing workshop

Clinical Activity

Patients 191
Procedures 870

NUTRITION DIVISION

Staff Recognition

Tracey Bates, MPH, RD, LDN, was selected by the North Carolina Dietetic Association for the Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year Award. This award is presented annually to outstanding dietitians under the age of 35 who have shown exceptional leadership abilities in the field of dietetics/nutrition. During her two years with us, Ms. Bates has led the Division’s Breakfast Campaign in schools, drawing attention to the importance of nutrition to educational success in schools. She is currently President-Elect of the Durham Chapel Hill Dietetic Association.

Folic Acid Education/Awareness Activities

Presented folic acid in-service sessions to:
- 12 medical staff members at Duke Health/Southpoint Clinic
- 4 medical and office staff members at Eastowne OB/GYN practice
- 16 staff members at the Durham Developmental Evaluation Center
- 15 nurses at Duke Medical Center OB/GYN clinic

Comments from presentation evaluations in response to “Will you do anything different after attending this presentation?”

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- “Begin taking multivitamin. Thanks!”(2 persons)
- “Discuss folic acid with my patients and family members.” (2 persons)
- “Place posters up for patients” (folic acid posters given out at presentations).
- “Encourage families I work with to take vitamin supplement.”
- “Spread the word—to take some posters to place in various locations” (participant asked if - she could place in her brother’s pizza shop and sister’s beauty shop).
- “Talk to more patients/give out materials.”
- “Will recommend multivitamin to all women of child bearing potential.” (3 persons)

Set up a folic acid/birth defects educational display in the Durham County Library.

Breakfast Promotion Campaign: “Launch Your Day with School Breakfast”

Conducted Breakfast Campaign in schools with an overall theme “Launch Your Day with School Breakfast”, linking breakfast consumption to educational, health and fitness goals—a critical boost students need to succeed in school.

Participating elementary schools included: Lakewood, Burton, Watts, RN Harris, EK Powe, Eastway, CC Spaulding, WG Pearson, Bethesda, and Fayetteville Street elementary schools; Rogers-Herr and Chewning middle schools; and Hillside High School.

Costume-characters (apple, blueberry, egg, strawberry, astronaut, Durham Bulls Mascot) visited elementary school children during breakfast and also visited their classrooms.

Principals, teachers, and child nutrition staff actively participated. Parents and county officials ate breakfast in cafeterias with children at various schools.

Involved schools in decorating cafeterias and hallways with banners using the theme chosen by the children: “Breakfast is Brain Fuel”. Many schools conducted poster, art and essay contests with their students and featured bulletin board displays with breakfast themes.

Hillside Teen Outreach Program (TOP) students participated in campaign preparations.

Articles on breakfast were published in six school newsletters distributed to parents and/or teachers.

WRAL-TV featured breakfast celebrations during the 5:30 a.m., 6:30 a.m. and noon newscasts from Rogers-Herr and Lakewood breakfast celebrations, reaching a viewing audience of 239,000 households. Erica Lewis reported on-site.

Presented a report of the breakfast promotion campaign to the Durham County Board of Education at their regular March meeting.

Taped breakfast radio spot on WDNC 620 AM that ran through March 15 with an estimated 40,000 listeners.

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Article on breakfast published in the Herald-Sun Newspaper on the “Schools” page and breakfast promotion days featured in reports from various schools.

Interviewed on the Durham County Government cable show during March featuring the School Breakfast Program Campaign.

Other School Related Activities

Taught infant/toddler feeding classes to teens in Southern and Riverside High School's pregnancy and parenting groups.

Participated in health fairs at Bacon Street and Lakeview Alternative School sites. Conducted a class for the Teen Outreach Program (TOP).

Provided information to NC Legislators upon request on school nutrition issues.

Food and Fitness: Build a Health Lifestyle--National Nutrition Month, March 2001.

Published “Newspapers-In-Education” series on four Wednesdays in partnership with The Herald-Sun newspaper and Southeast United Dairy Industry Association, Inc. The themes were “Breakfast”, “Calcium”, “Healthy Lifestyle”, and “Fitness.” These educational inserts were provided to teachers for interactive use with their students. The publication circulates 54,000 copies weekly. Additional 7,700 copies were provided to schools in Durham, Orange, Granville, Vance, Person and Chatham counties. This project coincided with breakfast promotions being conducted in the schools.

Coordinated publishing the National Nutrition Month Niche magazine with The Herald-Sun newspaper and the Durham-Chapel Hill Dietetic Association distributed the first Wednesday in March. Included article by Health Department nutritionist on school nutrition.

Taped a National Nutrition Month radio spot with WDNC 620 AM for airing through March 29.

Child Care Activities

Contributed two nutrition articles for inclusion in the Child Care Health Consultation Program quarterly newsletter (Calcium and National Nutrition Month).

Conducted 19 initial site visits to child-care centers and met with the Directors.

Completed one center nutrition and food safety assessment during the month of March. Also conducted 15 initial Director surveys to assess center needs.

Led a parent discussion group on age-appropriate foods at one childcare center.

Provided nutrition consultation on healthy snacks, low-fat choices, and meal planning in target childcare centers.

Delivered folic acid information to 10 childcare centers.

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Promoting Wellness Among Adults/Families

Over 5,300 Durham food stamp recipients received “Alive!” newsletter, the DINE for LIFE program’s primary avenue for delivering social marketing messages based on surveys and focus groups. Articles included safe weight loss, childhood obesity, a recipe makeover, smart shopping techniques, and DINE for LIFE program. The Social Services Department and the Housing Authority assisted with editing.

Of special note is the sheer will and persistence of staff that made delivery of this first edition possible. Even though our community nutritionist position has been vacant three months and the intensive Breakfast Campaign and National Nutrition Month activities were underway, staff worked diligently to ensure publishing and distribution of “Alive” during this quarter.

Clinical Nutrition Services

Child Wellness

Received 37 new referrals for medical nutrition therapy.

Provided 36 medical nutrition therapy services to children.

Provided 53 consultations to caregivers and providers regarding patient care.

Conducted height/weight screening on 372 children attending the Head Start Program.

Began onsite nutrition counseling for children with special needs at Duke Children Primary Care Southpoint Clinic one afternoon each month .

Infant Mortality Prevention/Reduction

Provided 62 medical nutrition therapy services to pre-conceptional women, high-risk pregnant women, or families with high-risk infants.

Provided 51 consultations to caregivers and providers regarding patient care.

Screened 468 OB patients for nutritional risk.

Provided in-service training to nine resident/attending physicians in the Duke High Risk OB Clinic on “Diet and Diabetes During Pregnancy”.

Adult Wellness

Received 17 new referrals for medical nutrition therapy.

Provided 49 medical nutrition therapy services to adults.

Provided 18 consultations to caregivers and providers regarding patient care.

Conducted an educational session on “Nutrition and HIV” for an HIV support group.

Meeting/Conference Participation

Governor’s Conference on Folic Acid.

Durham Emergency Food Provider Workshop.

Child and Adult Care Food Program Workshop.

Durham Infant Mortality Coalition.

State School Nutrition Workshop (nutritionist, nurse and school staff team attended).

Meals on Wheels Board of Directors.

ADMINISTRATION

Central Intake

Staff from Central Intake, Dental, Nutrition met to discuss referring parents of Dental patients to the Nutrition Clinic. The parents will have a

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nutritionist consultation while their child is being cared for in the Dental Clinic. Central Intake will schedule follow up nutrition appointments simultaneously with the next dental visit.

Central Intake worked on consolidating and/or destroying boxes stored at the old jail.

New chairs, keyboards and headsets were ordered for the Central Intake work area to alleviate complaints of neck, back and wrist pain from employees.

Billing

There was a delay in Medicaid reimbursement for January and February. EDS withheld reimbursements in error. EDS corrected the problem and Health Department should receive reimbursements for January, February and March in April.

Other Activities

Gayle Harris, Pam Weaver and Marcia Robinson attended a state workshop regarding changes to the Consolidated Agreement and Agreement Addenda for fiscal year 2001-2002.

NURSING DIVISION

Family Planning Clinic

In March, the Family Planning staff performed 101 initial visits and 152 annual visits. This level of performance is similar to last March when 102 initial visits and 146 annual visits were performed.

In the 3rd quarter of this FY, 49% of the new patients were Hispanic. Of the annual exams performed in the 3rd quarter, 32% were performed on Hispanic patients. This demonstrates that there is a well-established Hispanic patient population receiving services at the Health Department.

Maternal Health

During March, 111 new patients were enrolled in the Prenatal Clinic. Fifty-one percent (57) were Hispanic. The current waiting time to get a new OB appointment is six-eight weeks. The resignation of a bilingual nurse, the amount of time required to work with Hispanic patients who do not read, and the growing demand for services contribute to this delay. Physicians in the Duke High Risk OB Clinic have agreed to provide some of the initial physical exams until the long delay can be resolved.

Members of the Baby Love Team have been busy with volunteer efforts lately. Elisabeth Palmer, Gina Hill, and Suzanne Hayes, Social Workers, assisted with the annual "Parade of Playhomes" in the prevent child abuse initiative held at Northgate Mall. Suzanne Hayes and Elisabeth Palmer are also helping with the grant writing for the proposed merger of the Mission Society, Community Kitchen, and Homeless Shelter.

Over the past several months, the Prenatal Clinic participated in a research study by DUHS Carolina's Cord Blood Bank. Prenatal patients signed consent forms to allow cord blood to be saved after delivery and used by Duke Health System in an abstraction program. The blood will be used in the treatment of rare cancers and blood diseases.

Child Health

Child Service Coordination Project

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The Durham County Health Department honored Kim Bartholomew, Public Health Nurse II, as the Employee of the Quarter at the March general staff meeting. Because of Kim's fluency in Spanish, her caseload is almost entirely Spanish speaking. Very often the babies she follows are also medically fragile. She has taken a lead role in insuring that these babies actually receive the SSI payments they are entitled to, that all agencies provide relevant information to the parents in Spanish, and that they are treated fairly in the situations they encounter. Two days before she received the award, she made a home visit to an infant who stopped breathing while she was there. She was able to perform rescue breathing and resuscitate the baby by the time that EMS arrived.

After this event, she worked closely with the mother and medical providers to make sure that the baby received proper follow-up, including an apnea monitor to alert the parents if another event occurred. The Pediatric Outreach Worker, Susan Joseph, who is also fluent in Spanish, began working with the family and arranged for them get to the hospital when needed and to have an interpreter there.

Health Check

The staff in this project continues to surpass projections for number of contacts for the year. Since the state consultant recommended home visits as a last resort, their productivity has increased. Now they contact families primarily by phone to discuss their children's regular health care needs with them.

Linkages to Families

The Board of Directors for Durham's Partnership for Children voted to continue funding for the full request was not approved. Intensive Home Visiting projects have been shown to be an effective Project at the same level allocated for this year. Staff was disappointed that preventive measure for child abuse and neglect, juvenile crime, and poor school performance. While these projects appear expensive, the long-term savings are well worth the initial expenditures.

An example of the work being done by project staff members is as follows:

LaTonya McDuffie, RN, is working with a pregnant 15-year-old who is living with her mother, her stepfather and her younger siblings. This client is currently involved in the juvenile court system. She has been charged with fighting at school, communicating threats, and fighting with the live-in girlfriend of the father of the baby. The client has stated that fighting is her way of controlling her environment and that she has even had to fight her mother.

The client has a history of drug use. The father of the unborn child is 31 years old. (A protective service report has been made because of this). Others involved in the case, along with Linkages to Families, are the Adolescent Parenting Program, and directors and instructors of the client's school. The client has made comments in the past about not wanting the baby, but her mother wants her to keep it and has even said that she would take the baby if the client does not want it. This has concerned the team involved in the care of this client because if the client does not want the baby, there is the potential for abuse and neglect.

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At the last home visit between the client and Ms. McDuffie, the client said that she has decided to keep the baby and has actually started to purchase items for the baby. Her attitude seems to be changing some and Ms. McDuffie is hoping that this client will continue to move in a positive direction. Ms. McDuffie feels that with support, mentoring, parenting classes, and community involvement, this case can have a positive outcome.

Ms. McDuffie also feels that because she has been so involved and supportive to the client, and has listened to her, she has established a good rapport and good working relationship with the client and her family. Because the client wishes to continue with the Linkages Project, the other team members have decided to drop back from the case and allow Ms. McDuffie and the Department of Juvenile Justice worker to be the primary contacts with this young woman. Their goals will be supporting healthy parenting by the young woman and encouraging more effective communication between her and her own mother. Ms. McDuffie will work with the client throughout the remainder of the pregnancy and until the child is 1 year of age.

Lead Project:

United Parents Against Lead (UPAL) is a national non-profit organization that promotes parent activities to advocate for a lead-safe environment for all children. Shirley Holloway, Lead Nurse Consultant, organized the initial meeting for a Durham Chapter. On March 22, Kristin Joyner, a parent from Rocky Mount, NC, who formed the NCUPAL Chapter, spoke to a diverse group of enthusiastic Durham parents. This initial meeting was very successful. There were 14 attendees at this meeting. A parent member is taking the lead in forming and leading the group. Shirley Holloway will serve as a resource to the parent-driven group.

Child Care Health Consultant:

Full funding for next fiscal year from Durham's Partnership for Children was received for this project. Staff in the project continues to work with 45 targeted centers and a number of other homes and centers on a less concentrated basis.

For the past 3 months the Child Care Health Consultant Project staff reviewed immunization forms received from providers in childcare centers and home settings. Only 50% of homes and centers submitted the required forms. Due to changes at the state level, immunization compliance is no longer linked to Day Care Licensure. The function is now in the Division of Public Health with no consequences for non-compliance. It appears that many settings need hands-on technical assistance, including site visits, to review records. Resources at the local level are not available to allow for this level of follow-up to all centers.

School Health

During February school nurses completed an audit of SOACP note documentation of encounters with students during the 2000-2001 school year. Issues were identified at the March 28 school nurse meeting along with options for addressing them. A follow up audit is planned for May.

Terrie Paynter attended the Comprehensive Emergency Response Team training at Riverside on March 15.

Janice Anderson, President, State School Nurses Association, and Catherine Medlin, President, Regional School Nurses Association, met

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with state legislators on April 4 to promote state funding of additional school nurse positions.

Peg Wolfe participated in the following meetings:
CLIA implementation for the school system on March 13
Regional School Nurse Supervisors' on March 16
Exceptional Children's Program leadership on March 19
Dental Van meeting on March 22
Wellness Partnership meeting on March 28.

Immunization clinics were held at each public school with sixth grade students. The third Hepatitis B and a Tetanus-diphtheria booster were administered with written parental consent. Make-up clinics are in process.

Elementary nurses are facilitating A+ Asthma Club meetings for fourth graders with moderate to severe asthma.

Elementary nurses continue to teach growth and development classes to fifth graders as requested.

Home Health

The number of referrals for home health has increased. There were 19 referrals received in March. Twelve of these were new patients from 8 different sources. Of the twelve, two were children and ten were adults. Staff limitations and the current number of visits being made resulted in not accepting new referrals for a while. A vacant community health aide position is being abolished and a community health technician position is being reclassified to a public health nurse position. This additional fulltime nurse position will allow more referrals to be taken.

The in-home aide referrals from DSS continue. These referrals are long term so the turnover in this patient population is minimal. Services provided to this population average 2 hours per day, 3 to 5 days a week for these patients. One patient is receiving services 7 days a week due to her fragility.

Neighborhood Nurse Project

On March 26, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners recognized the project by presenting the 2000 Outstanding County Program Award in the Human Services Category to staff at the regular Board of County Commissioners meeting.

Christine Rogers, a reporter from WRAL, interviewed the Neighborhood Nurses in both sites in March. She also spoke with residents about the program and the difference it was making in their lives. The edited segment is expected to air on Friday, April 13 between 5:00 and 6:00 PM.

Few Gardens

Kerry Smith, RN, in Few Gardens had 129 encounters in March. She has been busy with a variety of issues this month.

Kerry attended the ASHA cervical cancer prevention graduation and dinner. Eighteen residents participated and graduated from this workshop.

A group of residents have become the core group for participating in the health presentations Kerry arranges. These Lay Health Advisors, 20 to 23

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residents, meet on Tuesday evenings. Kerry has arranged a curriculum and activities for the Tuesday evening meetings. She develops flyers to distribute and personally contacts the residents to notify them of the “happenings”. She has written letters requesting donations from area merchants to provide dinner/refreshments for the workshops. In March she taught an assertiveness class. The residents also wanted to talk about barriers to medical care so Kerry arranged a panel of providers to come and dialogue with them. She is working on rescheduling the “Save Our Sisters” workshop to be started April 3, 2001.

Fayetteville Street

Ann Milligan, RN, of Fayetteville Street had 398 encounters. Most of her encounters are in the areas of wellness promotion and reducing infant mortality.

Ms. Milligan continues to promote education with the residents. She and Joyce worked with numerous residents needing assistance with employment and education. Two residents found employment and one enrolled in the nurse aide training program. They also encouraged residents to enroll their children in HeadStart Preschool Program. Although most of them missed the deadline, Ann advocated for them with the social worker to get them enrolled and was told no child would be denied.

Three residents were recruited by Ann and Joyce for the SWOOP program, a national grant funded project that provides childcare, a stipend for training women for non-traditional jobs (i.e., construction, painting, auto repair, etc.). In this area the program is looking for women to train to participate in the Few Gardens’ revitalization. Pay would range from \$18-\$19 per hour.

Both Joyce and Ann are members of a citizen's panel concerned with the Closing the Achievement Gap in Durham Schools. They will participate in three working lunches to brainstorm about solutions to this complex problem.

Ann and Joyce attended the Fifth Annual HIV/AIDS update and learned about the latest treatments, medications, and how to care more effectively for people with AIDS. As soon as the details are completed and policies approved, the HIV/ AIDS testing onsite at Fayetteville Street will begin.

An in-service on "Effective Parenting and Relationships" was arranged for the residents. Yolanda Mangum-Gordon, formally with ASHA, was the presenter. Ten adults, ten children and three staff members attended the session.

Miscellaneous

The Department was notified that it was selected to receive a planning grant in the amount of \$8,288. The purpose of the grant is to develop a plan to reduce minority infant mortality. The planning grant cycle will begin August 1, 2001. The results of the planning phase will be submitted to compete for a three-year grant of \$50,000 per year. The proposal submitted was the work of a Infant Mortality Reduction Task Force subcommittee.

The Department was officially accepted as participants in the Perinatal Periods of Risk Practice Collaborative. Tekola Fisseha, Becky Freeman, Diane Wright (Chair, Infant Mortality Task Force) and Gayle Harris

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participated in the first of many conference calls for the collaborative on March 29.

Gayle Harris met with Janet Combs, Executive Director of Planned Parenthood of Orange and Durham, Inc. to discuss current services offered by the organization.

Gayle Harris participated in several conference calls and chaired the second conference planning committee meeting for the Annual CityMatCH Leadership Conference to be held in Nashville, Tennessee.

Gayle Harris attended the monthly meetings for the Health Choice Coalition, Criminal Justice Partnership Advisory Board, Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, Dental Van Collaborative, the Senior Resource Center Programming, and Triangle United Way Senior Issues Team/Keeping In Step Committee.

HEALTH DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Attended the Durham Health Partners Board of Directors meeting.

Participated in a meeting with Gene Bradham from City/County Inspections Department to explore mechanisms for timely reporting of building projects with potential to impact private water and sewage systems. Donnie McFall and Robert Brown from the Environmental Health Division were also in attendance.

Met with Barbara Barrett, News and Observer Reporter, to discuss a potential article addressing the problems associated with private sewage monitoring and regulation. Aging sand filter systems and private sewage systems that may or may not have been permitted are of particular concern.

Chaired Durham's Partnership for Children (DPfC) meeting during which the Allocations Committee submitted its funding recommendations for Fiscal Year 2001-2002. Approximately \$8 Million was allocated to a number of community projects. The Health Department's two maternal outreach projects, Linkages and ChildCare Consultation, were funded with modest increases. The Linkages Project requested a funding increase to offset Medicaid revenue shortfall. The increase was not approved.

Chaired the Executive Committee meeting of Durham's Partnership for Children. The Committee reviewed two requests for funding reconsideration and the funding status of the Edgemont Community Center.

Attended a meeting with County Manager Mike Ruffin and Duke Health System's William Donnelan, Durham Regional Hospital's CEO Richard Liekweg, and Former Deputy County Manager Michael Palmer, now Director of Duke University Community Relations. The meeting was held to brief the new County Manager about the current status of DHS's community health delivery activities.

The Durham Regional Hospital Lease was discussed as were the challenges both hospitals are facing relating to uncompensated health care. It was agreed that uncompensated care is a serious threat to both hospitals. Mr. Donnelan acknowledged that the terms of the lease were set and not open for renegotiations. DHS will, however, press Durham County to increase its support for Lincoln Community Health Center and other

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community health initiatives that may or may not currently enjoy County support.

It was agreed that follow-up meetings with Mr. Liekweg, Mike Ruffin and the Health Director should take place in order to continue discussions regarding community health service delivery.

Attended a reception & meeting for North Carolina Smart Start Board Chairs at the NC State University Club in Raleigh.

Attended the monthly Mobile Dental Clinic organizing meeting. The mobile clinic is now under construction and may be delivered in early June. Recruitment for the dentist who will staff the clinic is underway.

Attended the Durham Youth Coordinating Board monthly meeting representing Durham's Partnership for Children as Board Chair.

Participated in a discussion session with the County Commissioners, the Human Services Consolidation consultant firm PCG, Dan Hudgins, Carolyn Titus, and Mike Ruffin to consider the latest supplemental report from the consultants. Problems with data reporting were clearly evident. PCG reported that very little money was saved during the Mecklenburg and Wake County Human Service merger projects. A follow up meeting may be scheduled.

Attended the County Commissioners Work Session to hear a proposal from County Manager Mike Ruffin to modify the Capital Improvement Plan approved last summer. The new proposal delays construction of the new Human Services Complex by three years with completion scheduled a decade from now. Bond rating concerns motivated the County Manager to recommend the timetable modification.

Attended the Health Directors monthly regional meeting at the Alamance County Health Department.

Participated in a panel discussion regarding the question "Are We Healthy, Durham?" The Durham Voter's Alliance sponsored the forum.

Attended a Human Services Department Heads meeting chaired by Carolyn Titus. This was the first in a series of meetings designed to facilitate county departments working more closely together.

Attended a "Community Dialogue on Homelessness" to discuss some of the challenges faced by homeless individuals and the public and private agencies who attempt to serve their needs. Graduate students from the UNC School of Public Health organized the meeting.

Attended the monthly "Healthy Carolinians Committee" meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and approved with no opposition.

William H. Burch, R.Ph.
Chairman

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April 12, 2001.

Brian E. Letourneau, M.S.P.H.
Health Director